

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 OIC-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 COA-02 EB-11 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 CG-00

COME-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 NSF-04 OMB-01

CEQ-02 EPA-04 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSR-01

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E. O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PBOR, OCON, UN

SUBJ: CONSULTATIONS ON LOS CONFERENCE

SUMMARY: CHAIRMAN OF SEABED COMITE AMB. AMERASINGHE MET WITH HEAD OF US DEL FROF. J. N. MOORE AND MR. J. R. STEVENSON TO DISCUSS FORTHCOMING ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION OF LOS CONFERENCE. END SUMMARY.

1. AMERASINGHE SAID HE HAS MET SEPARATELY WITH AS, LA, AF, AND EE GROUPS TO DISCUSS ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION. LA AND AF GROUPS WILL MEET SEPARATELY PRIOR TO GENEVA SESSION AND HOPE TO ARRIVE AT POSITIONS THEN. EE GROUP WILL MEET WITH AMERASINGHE AGAIN SHORTLY.

2. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE. AMERASINGHE NOTED THAT ADOPTION OF 3 COMITES IN CONFERENCE WOULD CAUSE LEAST DISLOCATION.

HOWEVER, COMPLEXITY OF WORK IN SC II POSES SPECIAL PROBLEMS AND HE SUGGESTED POSSIBLE REVISION OF ITS ORGANIZATION. AMERASINGHE

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NOTED THAT TWO SUB- WORKING GROUPS MIGHT BE CREATED, EACH WITH ITS OWN CHAIRMAN, TO REPORT TO WG OF SC II AS A WHOLE. CHAIRMAN OF WG AS A WHOLE COULD CONTROL SEPARATION OF ITEMS BETWEEN SUB- GROUPS AND RESOLVE DISCREPANCIES. ACCORDING TO AMERASINGHE

THIS ARRANGEMENT WOULD PRESERVE POHL' S AND KHADADI' S POSITIONS, FACILITATE WORK, AND MAINTAIN ESSENTIAL UNITY OF WORK WITHIN WG AS WHOLE. EACH SUB- WG WOULD HAVE BASIC MEMBERSHIP AND BE OPEN- ENDED. HE EXPRESSED HOPE SOME SORT OF ARRANGEMENT AS THIS COULD BE ADOPTED WITHOUT PROCEDURAL DEBATE.

3. AMERASINGHE AND MOORE THOUGHT CONFERENCE SHOULD FOLLOW NORMAL UN PROCEDURES AND MODEL OF LAW OF TREATIES CONFERENCE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. DRAFTING AND CREDENTIALS COMITES MUST BE CREATED AND NUMBER OF VICE PRESIDENTS OF CONFERENCE MUST BE RESOLVED. ON MEMBERSHIP OF DRAFTING COMITE AMERASINGHE HOPED INCLUSION OF 5 PERMANENT MEMBERS WOULD BE ARRANGED QUIETLY TO AVOID PROTEST. HE HOPES NETHERLANDS' RIPHAGEN WOULD CHAIR DRAFTING COMITE WHOSE DUTIES WOULD NOT BE TO INITIATE BUT MAKE ONLY NECESSARY CHANGES TO ACHIEVE COHERENCE IN THE WHOLE TEXT.

4. ON DECISION- MAKING PROCEDURES, AMERASINGHE EMPHASIZED NEED TO WORK AS FAR AS POSSIBLE TOWARD CONSENSUS. DEMONSTRATIONS OF NUMERICAL POWER AND " RAM" JOBS HAVE TO BE AVOIDED. HE ADVOCATED USE OF " INDICATIVE VOTE" PROCEDURE, (PRECEDENT: COUNCIL OF EUROPE), WHEREBY AT AN EARLY STAGE OF CONFERENCE- COMITE WORK A VOTE WOULD BE TAKEN TO SHOW RELATIVE STRENGTHS OF POSITION. NEGOTIATION COULD THEN CONTINUE TOWARD ACCOMMODATING VIEWS UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE GENERAL COMITE WOULD DECIDE TO END COMITE WORK AND CALL FOR A VOTE (MAJORITY) INC OMITE. HOPEFULLY, NEGOTIATIONS WOULD CONTINUE UP TO PLENARY (2/3) VOTE.

5. AMERASINGHE INDICATED THAT NO WORKING SESSION IN GENEVA WOULD BE USED FOR DISCUSSION OF CONFERENCE PROCEDURAL MATTERS; HE INTENDS INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH GROUPS.

6. IN CLOSING HE NOTED LOS CONFERENCE COULD EASILY MEET DURING GA WITHOUT INTERFERENCE. CONFERENCE COULD MEET EARLY IN SESSION FOR ONE DAY AND THEN ADJOURN TO RESOLVE, IN GROUPS, ANY OUTSTANDING DISPUTES ON ORGANIZATION. WHEN READY, CONFERENCE COULD MEET AGAIN AND QUICKLY ADOPT ITS RULES AND AGENDA.

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